Appl. No.: 10/572,764

Amdt. dated January 12, 2012

Reply to Office Action of December 13, 2011,

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-35 and 37-171 are pending. Claim 36 has been canceled without disclaimer of any subject matter therein. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing applications directed to any unclaimed subject matter disclosed in the present application.

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Applicants submit an abstract showing deletion of the entire original abstract by strike-through of the original text, and underlining of the added text in the new portion. A status identifier for claim 133 has been added.

Since Applicants' response adopts all of the Examiner's suggestions, the response is a *bona fide* attempt to be fully responsive to the Notice. Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is solicited.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants have copied below the body of the remarks from the earlier-filed response.

## I. All Pending Claims are Allowable

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-35 and 37-171 are allowed. Therefore, to further this case to issuance, and not in acquiescence to any rejection, claim 36 has been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants believe that this case is now in condition for allowance. A Notice to this effect is solicited.

## II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is Moot

The amendment submitted herewith cancels claim 36. Applicants have submitted this amendment merely to facilitate issuance of the allowed claims. The rejection of claim 36 has thus been rendered moot.

Appl. No.: 10/572,764

Amdt. dated January 12, 2012

Reply to Office Action of December 13, 2011,

III. Other Matters

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the Abstract because it does not

recite process steps. In response, Applicants submit a replacement Abstract that includes process

steps.

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the IDSs submitted have been

reviewed and considered.

**CONCLUSION** 

Applicants believe that all of the issues in the Office Action have been addressed. For

the reasons stated above, each of pending claims 1-35 and 37-171 are allowable. If there remains

any impedance to allowance of any pending claim, Applicants request a telephone call from the

Examiner to the undersigned attorney so that the issue can be timely resolved.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required,

beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of

this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required

therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit

Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

/bryan l. skelton/

Bryan L. Skelton

Registration No. 50,893

Customer No. 00826 ALSTON & BIRD LLP

Bank of America Plaza

101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000

Charlotte, NC 28280-4000

Tel Research Triangle Area Office (919) 862-2200

Fax Research Triangle Area Office (919) 862-2260

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT &

TRADEMARK OFFICE ON JANUARY 12, 2012.

LEGAL02/33049493v1

23 of 23